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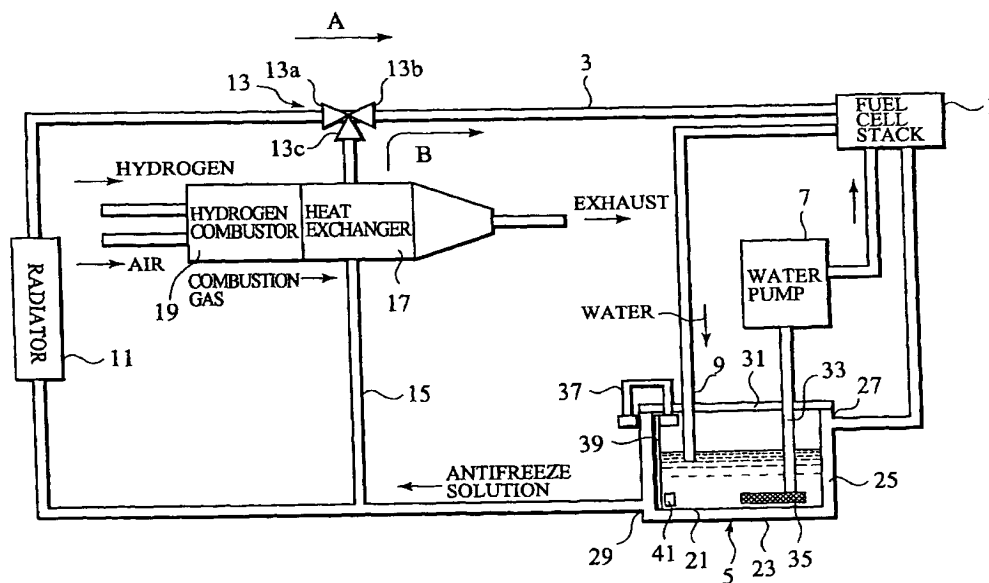
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(54) Title: FUEL CELL DEVICE AND RELATED CONTROL METHOD



**(57) Abstract:** A fuel cell device and related control method are disclosed wherein a water tank 5 is disposed downstream of a fuel cell stack 1 and a hot medium flow passage 25 is formed on an outer periphery of the water tank 5 to pass antifreeze solution. During cold start-up, a three-way valve 13 is switched over to allow antifreeze solution to flow through the fuel cell stack 1 and a heat exchanger 17, by which antifreeze solution is heated and supplied to the fuel cell stack 1 and the water tank 5 to heat these components, whereby the water tank 5 is heated to thaw frozen ice.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern. Application No

PCT/J, 03/10067

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 H01M8/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 H01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 823 743 A (HONDA MOTOR CO LTD) 11 February 1998 (1998-02-11) column 5, line 31 -column 7, line 48 figure 4	1-18
E	EP 1 369 944 A (NISSAN MOTOR) 10 December 2003 (2003-12-10) abstract paragraphs '0006!-'0009!', '0034!', '0037!-'0039!', '0064!-' '0066!', '0082! figure 1	1, 13, 17, 18



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ation on patent family members

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